

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE  
SOVIET UNION AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA ON  
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST  
STRATEGY

In July 1959 an international conference of Communist leaders was held, probably in Prague. In the discussion of some of the broad problems of international Communist strategy, strong differences of view between the Soviet and Chinese Communists became apparent.

Italian Communist representatives recommended the broadening of the World Peace Movement to include non-Communist elements. The Chinese Communists objected vigorously to this; they insisted that even sharper lines should be drawn between Communists and non-Communists. Any relaxation in Communist foreign policy, they said, should be accompanied by tighter controls within the Communist parties and within the front organizations. At first, the Soviets were inclined to support the Italian view, but there was no active debate, and the problem remained unresolved.

The Italians proposed that the Italian Communist Party develop more contacts with Vatican circles, and that proposals regarding Italian politics be made to them. The Chinese were adamant against this, and warned against relaxing opposition to bourgeois, religious, and even democratic leftist groups, because of the danger of revisionist softening similar to the experiences of 1956. The point was carried by the Chinese, and the proposal was dropped.

The Italians, who are responsible for the Egyptian Communist Party, claimed that it was a mistake to let down the Egyptian Party by accepting Nasr's persecution of it. They were supported